

I am writing to issue a public comment on the relaxed media ownership rules (which are again under review). As a concerned citizen, I find it astounding that the FCC would push through a rollback on media ownership rules, even as the media landscape in this country and around the world has become more and more concentrated, and bottom-line driven. The recent Sinclair broadcasting decision provides a kind of warning for the future: their intent to run an anti-Kerry video on all their stations is a clear example of how ownership--especially the kind of cross-medium ownership that the looser rules allow--would present far too much potential for abuse. The same would be true, of course, if only an anti-Bush tape were broadcast.

We own the airwaves: we grant licenses on the understanding that broadcasters will serve the public interest. The FCC should not water down the already limited provisions that restrict ownership.